



Task Force Marne Hero of the North



Name: SPC Daniel Pangelinan

Unit: D TROOP, TF 2-6 CAV

Hometown: YIGO, GUAM

Date of Events: 18-25 Nov 2009



Since deploying, SPC Pangelinan has proven himself to be a distinguished aircraft structural repairman. He's completed an average of 25 standard and non-standard work orders per week. Additionally, SPC Pangelinan took the initiative to research, design and fabricate an OH-58 aft cowl template that was approved by Aviation Missile Command (AMCOM) engineers at Redstone Army Arsenal in Huntsville, AL. His cowl template is expected to reduce man hour requirements by 25%, greatly reducing aircraft down time. His tireless efforts and unending contributions to mission accomplishment have streamlined Squadron maintenance operations, increased efficiency, and provided a professional environment for Soldiers of D Troop 2-6 CAV. His personal initiative and creative solutions to complex problems make him a most deserving Task Force Marne Hero of the North.



Task Force Marne Hero of the North

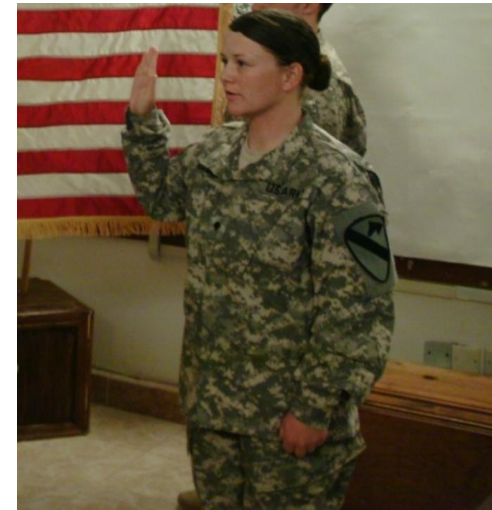


Name: SPC JENNIFER L. RAMOS

Unit: HHC, 15TH BSB, 2-1 CAV

Hometown: SAN DIEGO, CA

Date of Event: OCTOBER 6, 2009



SPC Jennifer Ramos is a Human Resource Specialist and serves as the battalion's Personnel Actions and Personnel Status Report (PERSTAT) Clerk. She monitors and tracks all daily movements of each Soldier throughout the AOR and was entrusted with this job due to her keen attention to detail and dogged determination to accomplish any task she's given. She's been a phenomenal asset to the battalion since deploying in January, 2009 and can always be counted on to accomplish all assigned duties with little or no supervision. SPC Ramos reenlisted on October 6, 2009 as a "Gambler" Soldier while deployed in support of Operation Iraq Freedom 09-10. This was a significant event not only for the Army, but for this great Cavalry Trooper as well. SPC Ramos is most deserving of being today's Task Force Marne Hero of the North.



Task Force Marne Hero of the North



Name: SPC BARTEN HOWARD

Unit: C/2-3IN, 3-2 SBCT

Hometown: AUBURN, CA

Date of Event: NOV 17, 2009



SPC Barten Howard has done an outstanding job as the radio operator for 2nd Platoon, C Co, 2-3 Infantry. SPC Howard has worked tirelessly and continuously to maintain his platoon's communication equipment in peak condition since the company arrived at Forward Operating Base Normandy in late August. He's mastered the maintenance of the enhanced position location reporting system in the vehicles as well as the dismounted radios in the platoon, keeping them in peak operating condition. SPC Howard's determined actions are directly responsible for the platoon's radios and other communications gear being mission ready at all times. He has not yet failed to fix a communications device with a noted fault, and has voluntarily assumed the role of maintaining the entire company's equipment. SPC Howard's willingness to place the units' needs ahead of his own make him a most deserving Task Force Marne Hero of the North.



Task Force Marne Hero of the North



Name: SPC JONATHAN WHITEHAIR

Unit: 115th EN CO, 779th EN BN

Hometown: TERRA ALTA, WV

Date of Event: NOV 20, 2009



SPC Whitehair is serving as a carpenter/mason in his first tour in Iraq. He is employed as a coal miner and an underground electrician when not mobilized. SPC Whitehair's platoon was tasked to construct the new Brigade Aid Station at COS Marez, despite the squad leader and team leader serving on other missions. SPC Whitehair took charge of his squad and is capably serving as a key member of the construction effort. Not only did SPC Whitehead assume duties of a squad leader, he also took lead on the electrical installation when the key electrician was tasked with a higher priority mission. His efforts, knowledge and professionalism are proving instrumental in the successful completion of this mission. The willingness of Soldiers like SPC Whitehair to take on greater responsibility and leadership roles says volumes about the quality of the American Soldier and makes SPC Whitehair today's Task Force Marne Hero of the North.



Task Force Marne Hero of the North



Name:: PFC JOSHUA LOVETT
Unit: SHOPS PLT, B CO, 209th ASB
Hometown: BUSHNELL, FL
Date of Event: NOV 14, 2009



PFC Joshua Lovett distinguished himself as a welder and inventor by designing and building an all terrain Hellfire missile trailer. PFC Lovett used his creativity to design and his welding skills to fabricate the trailer when he identified a need. The trailer is used daily to carry two 107 lb. rockets over rough terrain. His cart has facilitated the up-load and down-load of the missiles during FARP operations, significantly reducing the time aircraft spend in the FARP, increasing ground crew efficiency, and enhancing safety by reducing the risk involved during arming and disarming operations. PFC Lovett's ingenuity, resourcefulness, and skills show his warrior spirit and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Army. His ingenuity and drive to solve complex problems make him a deserving choice for today's Task Force Marne Hero of the North.



Task Force Marne Hero of the North



Name: SPC DANNY COOPER

Unit: B/2-3 IN

Hometown: ATLANTA, GA

Date of Event: NOV 22, 2009



SPC Cooper was instrumental in providing life saving triage to a Coalition Soldier who was assessed as “Urgent Surgical” following a HMMWV rollover several miles from a proper medical facility. He calmly employed vital skills he learned in Emergency Medical Technician School, Combat Lifesaver course and Stryker First Responder school to identify a broken pelvis and symptoms of hypothermia. SPC Cooper quickly prepared an area inside of the Stryker vehicle to use as a Casualty Collection Point and directed the casualty be placed inside the vehicle with the ramp up and heater on. SPC Cooper then removed his ACU top to further warm the casualty and provided necessary equipment to the medic before asked to. He was praised by the medic for his actions, which bring great credit to him, his unit, and the United States Army. He is a most deserving Task Force Marne Hero of the North.



Task Force Marne Hero of the North



Name: PFC PATRICK KENNEDY

Unit: 3/B/2-16 IN

Hometown: HOLLISTER, CA

Date of Event: NOV 12, 2009



PFC Patrick Kennedy demonstrated commendable initiative and a keen understanding of today's modern battlefield beyond his pay grade by facilitating the donation of much needed school supplies to an impoverished community. PFC Kennedy's contribution to the fight – done solely on his own initiative - allows 3/B/2-16IN to shape the human terrain in its favor by further denying the enemy freedom of maneuver. At his request, his family and community in the United States gathered the school supplies through charitable donations. Through his own initiative, PFC Kennedy significantly contributed to the fight against insurgent elements in AO Bushmaster. His willingness to support the Iraqi people is commendable and makes him a most deserving choice for today's Task Force Marne Hero of the North.



Task Force Marne Hero of the North



Name: SPC KENYETTA BOYD

Unit: C CO, 4-1 BSTB

Hometown: MOBILE, AL

Date of Event: DEC 4, 2009



SPC Boyd volunteered last minute to replace an injured team member for the Cobra Team competing in the 701st BSB Diligent Challenge on COB Speicher, Iraq. SPC Boyd not only carried her own weight as a team member, she excelled and finished the event fourth out of her team of ten Soldiers. Volunteering only days in advance, she was not provided the preparation time afforded the other participants, who had begun training weeks prior. This thirteen hour event started with a 3-mile run and consisted of twelve events, including team pull-ups, team dips, M1151 push, litter carry, map reading, call for-fire, assessing a casualty, stress shoot, tow-bar carry, duffle bag drag, and culminated with an eight mile road march with full gear and 40 lb rucks. During the event her positive attitude and willingness to drive on inspired and motivated her team to have a strong showing in their first Diligent Challenge. Her dedication, selfless service and motivation make her a clear choice for today's Task Force Marne Hero of the North.



Task Force Marne Hero of the North



Name: SPC JAMES HICKS

Unit: 2nd Plt. / A-Troop / 3-7 CAV

Hometown: JACKSONVILLE, FL

Date of Event: 1 DEC 09



SPC James Hicks exemplifies the Warrior's Ethos. His Mine Resistant Ambush Protected vehicle was engaged by an RKG-3 grenade while on patrol in the neighborhood of Al Hadba, Mosul on 1 December 2009. SPC Hicks suffered a broken femur and shrapnel wounds to both legs and his shoulder in the attack, but still maintained the wherewithal to continue to drive his vehicle for over a block to get himself and his crew out of the kill zone. Additionally, he applied his own tourniquet to control his own bleeding, allowing the remainder of the crew to assess injuries and the situation. Despite extreme pain and loss of blood, SPC Hicks maintained a calm demeanor throughout the event and is an exceptional example of the level headed Soldier under fire we all aspire to be. For his shining personal example, SPC Hicks is today's Task Force Marne Hero of the Day.



Task Force Marne Hero of the North



Name: SPC NICHOLAS SMITH

Unit: HHC/2-3IN, 3-2 SBCT

Hometown: TAMPA, FL

Date of Event: NOV 22, 2009



Immediately following a vehicle roll-over several miles from a proper medical facility and with limited communications with the forces on the ground, SPC Smith began coordinating an Air Medical Evacuation from the Tactical Operations Center based on two U.S. Forces casualties who were assessed as Urgent Surgical and Priority by medical personnel on the scene. The Battalion Tactical Operation Center had limited communications with the ground force by voice, so SPC Smith used the Internet Relay Chat as an alternative means of communication. His quick thinking and actions allowed him to gather the proper information on the two injured Soldiers and send the information for a 9 Line to the Air Medical Evacuation crew. His ability to think under pressure allowed two Soldiers to be Air Medically Evacuated in a timely manner, ensuring their injuries were treated within the golden hour time standard. SPC Smith's superb performance under stress makes him a most deserving Task Force Marne Hero of the North.



Task Force Marne Hero of the North



Name: EO1 JERAMY STORER

Unit: EODMU 12 / JTF TROY-NORTH

Hometown: FRANKLIN, NJ



Equipment Operator First Class Petty Officer Jeramy Storer distinguished himself by synchronizing the intra-theater movement of 37 Joint Task Force Troy-North Explosive Ordnance Disposal teams to include 176 personnel, 24 pieces of Combat Expeditionary Support equipment and Explosive Ordnance Disposal specialized Man-Transportable Robots, Unmanned Aerial Vehicles and Joint Response Vehicles. His efforts resulted in personnel/cargo traveling seamlessly through 18 Forward/Contingency Operating Bases in the Ninewa, Kirkuk, Salah ad Din and Diyala provinces. As Facilities manager, Petty Officer Storer supervises daily camp maintenance, cleanliness, safety, and preservation of the Battalion and Company Headquarters and 80 living spaces on his compound. Petty Officer Storer's dynamic leadership and SEABEE "Can Do" attitude reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Navy. Petty Officer Storer strongly warrants the honor of being today's Task Force Marne Hero of the North.



Task Force Marne Hero of the North



Name: PFC TERRENCE JOHNSON

Unit: Task Force ODIN

Hometown: JEFFERSONVILLE, IN



PFC Johnson consistently displays a work ethic and drive that far exceeds his pay grade. His stellar performance as a Warrior Alpha MQ-1 operator, in support of United States Forces-Iraq (USF-I), separates him from his peers. PFC Johnson performs operator duties on an Armed Unmanned Aircraft System flown by our sister services and is directly responsible for providing over watch to ground force units. He is also capable of providing direct targeting to enemy forces on the ground. PFC Johnson was selected above his peers to begin training as a Mission Commander, a position normally held by an experienced Sergeant First Class, due to his exceptional performance as a Warrior A operator and ability to learn at an accelerated pace. PFC Johnson's dedication to duty in support of Soldiers on the ground is only surpassed by his desire to Observe, Detect, Identify, and Neutralize (ODIN) the enemy of the Iraqi people and the United States Armed Forces. He is a most worth Task Force Marne Hero of the North.



Task Force Marne Hero of the North



NAME: SSG DONAVAN SMITH

UNIT: A Co., 106th BSB

HOMETOWN: TAYLORSVILLE, MS

DATE OF EVENT: 27 Nov 2009



SSG Smith was the Maintenance NCO In Charge during a convoy escort mission on 27 Nov 09. During the mission, a truck and trailer rolled over and a MRAP broke down. SSG Smith used the limited assets available on the convoy to successfully right the truck and recover the MRAP. He quickly ensure both vehicles were able to continue the mission, directly resulting in the convoy reaching its destination with no further incidents. When not conducting convoy operations, SSG Smith is constantly working behind the scene to ensure vehicles are in top condition for upcoming missions. His technical competence, drive to excel and mission first attitude make him an obvious choice to be today's Task Force Marne Hero of the North.



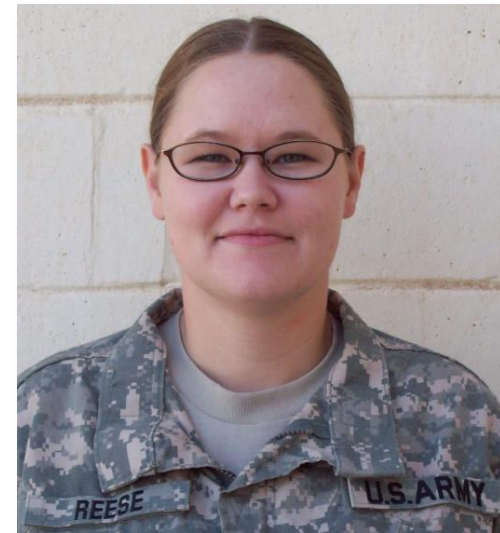
Task Force Marne Hero of the North



NAME: SGT JENNA REESE

UNIT: 724th Transportation Co

HOMETOWN: NICHOLASVILLE, KY



SGT Jenna Reese performed admirably as a Human Resources (HR) Sergeant for the 724th Transportation Company. She volunteered to serve as the NR NCOIC for the unit for several weeks before the actual NCOIC arrived in theater. She provided accurate and timely finance, medical, and other administrative support for over 150 Soldiers during the transitional period. Currently, she submits daily required rosters to battalion, tracks Soldiers' shot records and handles Leaves and Passes for the Company – all duties outside of her Food Specialist MOS. Her dedication to excellence and commitment to the unit's Soldiers assisted in making a seamless transition for the HR NCOIC into the section. To recognize her selfless service to her unit and its Soldiers, she is selected as today's Task Force Marne Hero of the North.



Task Force Marne Hero of the North



Name: PFC HEZEKIAH McRAE III

Unit: HSB/1-37FA, 3-2 SBCT

Hometown: SOUTH HILL, VA

Date of Event: DEC 10, 2009



PFC McRae dedicated himself to the battalion's upper T/I Network stability and automation services. Over the past week he diligently supported the battalion by mapping computers, printers, phones, and other IP network devices for the network diagram. He ran over one mile of ethernet cable to ensure connectivity between the battalion and batteries. His professionalism and work ethic ensured timely help desk support, enabling users to be able to function on the network with minimal downtime. PFC McRae's dedication to duty and willingness to serve have earned him the recognition as the battalion's hero of the week and make him an obvious choice for today's Task Force Marne Hero of the North.



Task Force Marne Hero of the North



Name: SPC VITO CANESTRELLI

Unit: A CO. 1-28 IN

Hometown: LAS VEGAS, NV

Date of Event: DEC 24, 2009



SPC Canestrelli is the radio telephone operator (RTO) for Attack Co. 1-28 IN. SPC Canestrelli is consistently one of the highest performing Soldiers in the company. Over the course of the deployment, he has been pivotal to the success of Attack Co. SPC Canestrelli has recorded vital information that was key for the company success to understand the modern day battle field and be able to plan future missions in the AO. SPC Canestrelli is very instrumental in making sure the BFT, SINGARS and TACSET equipment is in working order before, during and after the company go out on patrol.



Task Force Marne ~~Hero~~ of the North “DOG FACE HERO”



Name: SGT Nouska

Handler: SPC Mather

Unit: HHOC, DSTB

Hometown: Ansbach, GE (272 MP Co*)

“Fighting Duece!”



SGT Nouska and SPC Mather are recognized for their outstanding performance as a Patrol Explosive Detector Dog Team (PEDD). Their abilities and willingness to perform were evident, while completing all tasks and putting others' safety and well being above their own. They set the standard for all Military Working Dogs to emulate by continuously earning the confidence of maneuver commanders they supported through their tactical proficiency, competence, and ability to perform in any environment. SGT Nouska and SPC Mather conducted over 75 missions, including 25 raids and 30 cordon and search operations, in addition to their daily FP duties. SGT Nouska and SPC Mather like chasing the bad guys and playing hide and seek with insurgents. In order to recognize these accomplishments they have been selected as the Task Force Marne “Dog Face” Heroes of the North.

***Note both LTC Heinlein (Provost Marshal) and MAJ Marquiss (Deputy Provost Marshal) are former commanders of the 272nd MP CO.g**



Task Force Marne Hero of the North



Name: SPC VINCENT MCLANDSBOROUGH

Unit: F/3-25 GSAB

Hometown: LENNOX, CA

Date of Event: 7 DEC 2009



SPC McLandsborough an Air Traffic Controller assigned to Speicher Army Radar Approach Control performed his duties with confidence and in a professional manner. On the night of 7 DEC 09, Skull 11, a C-130, inbound to Speicher was flying in instrument meteorological conditions (IMC) and could not land without positive control. After being vectored to final, Skull 11 was handed off to SPC McLandsborough (Speicher Approach) for final vectors into Speicher. At approximately from landing one mile, SPC McLandsborough knew the C-130 was too low for a safe approach; without hesitation he directed Skull 11 to execute a missed approach. Skull11 was determined to return to Speicher despite the poor visibility and gave SPC McLandsborough a second approach which resulted with a safe landing. SPC McLandsborough exercised composure, good judgment, and a clear understanding of air traffic control procedures allowing critical aviation assets to return to base. His outstanding performance makes him an obvious choice for today's Task Force Marne Hero of the North.



Task Force Marne Hero of the North



Name: MA2 JARED CHIECO

Unit: HHC, 2BCT

Hometown: EAST SETAUKET, NY



Master-at-Arms Second Class Petty Officer Jared Chieco, USN works with the PMO at FOB Marez, and is assigned to investigate detainee cases. He has investigated over 400 cases, including 174 of the Dangerous Radical and Enduring Security Threat (Red) detainees, by locating witnesses and pursuing evidentiary leads. In the course of investigating the detainees, and in cooperation with the Iraqi Police and Iraqi Judges, MA2 Chieco obtained 80 provincial arrest warrants against detainees in US custody. Due to the importance of working with local officials, MA2 Chieco has conducted over 50 Key Leader Engagements, with uniformly positive results. In addition, MA2 Chieco set the prosecution standard for cases by personally arranging for witnesses to testify via Video Teleconference, ensuring witness safety and the admission of their evidence. MA2 Chieco diligently works to further the Rule of Law in Ninewa Province, and is a most deserving choice for today's Task Force Marne Hero of the North.



Task Force Marne Hero of the North



Name: SGT WENDY GROVES

Unit: 115TH EN CO

Hometown: MT. LAKE PARK, MD

Date of Event: 17 DEC 2009



SGT Wendy Groves is the senior medic for the 115th EN CO and the assigned medic for 3rd Platoon. While providing medical support for her platoon on a mission at Samarra, SGT Groves, attended to the health needs of over 40 Iraqi people, including interpreters, Iraqi police and council members. Treating everything from cuts to ear infections, her caring attitude and professionalism positively affected the hearts and minds of those she provided care for and contributed greatly to positive relations between the Iraqi people and the US Army. SGT Groves is an outstanding Soldier who continually puts the welfare of her Soldiers above her own. She truly exemplifies the 779th Engineer Battalion motto of "Do Right, Fear Nothing." It is because of her willingness to serve others that SGT Groves is today's Task Force Marne Hero of the North.



Task Force Marne Hero of the North



Name: CPL DANIEL STAKLEY

Unit: 4th PLT, HHB, 2-32 FA

Hometown: ATHENS, GA

Date of Event: DEC 4, 2009



CPL Daniel Stakley has distinguished himself while serving as the unit armorer for HHB 2-32 FA. His knowledge, dedication, and commitment to excellence has provided the Soldiers of the unit with the highest quality weapons maintenance with all crew served weapons being operational despite a grueling patrol schedule. He has also turned in over 14 LIN's of TPE and maintained 100% accountability of all sensitive items for the entire Task Force. In addition to his duties as armorer, CPL Stakley has also served as a team leader for the Battery PSD successfully leading his team in all missions and ensuring that his Soldiers remain properly trained and proficient on all Warrior Tasks and Drills. Through challenging times and conditions where we demand more out of our Junior NCO's than ever before, his dedication to success has made him the epitome of the NCO. CPL Stakley's commitment to the mission and his unit are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Army and set a sterling example of excellence for